

**ACRYLONITRILE POLYMER MOLDED ARTICLE**

**Patent number:** JP55115440  
**Publication date:** 1980-09-05  
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**Classification:**  
- **international:** C08K3/08; C08L33/20; D01F6/18  
- **europen:**  
**Application number:** JP19790021648 19790226  
**Priority number(s):** JP19790021648 19790226

**Abstract of JP55115440**

**PURPOSE:** To provide a title polymer molded article showing anti-fungal property, anti-bacterial property as well as having low electrostatic chargeability and being useful as a fiber material for socks, an insole material, an air filter or the like, which article containing zinc powder as a filler.

**CONSTITUTION:** To 99.9-70wt% of an acrylonitrile polymer obtained by polymerizing acrylonitrile or copolymerizing about 40wt% of acrylonitrile and below about 60wt% of other vinyl monomer, 0.1-30wt% of zinc powder of which particle size is pref. below 1μm is added. In the addition of zinc powder to the acrylonitrile polymer, it is necessary to uniformly disperse said zinc powder into a spinning stock solution by using a gorine mixer or the like in producing an acrylonitrile fiber and monofilament fineness of said acrylonitrile fiber is pref. within a range of 0.5-20 denier.

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⑯ 日本国特許庁 (JP) ⑯ 特許出願公開  
 ⑰ 公開特許公報 (A) 昭55-115440

⑯ Int. Cl.<sup>3</sup> 識別記号 厅内整理番号 ⑯ 公開 昭和55年(1980)9月5日  
 C 08 L 33/20 6779-4 J  
 C 08 K 3/08 6911-4 J  
 D 01 F 6/18 6768-4 L 発明の数 1  
 番号請求 未請求

(全 4 頁)

④アクリロニトリル系重合体成型物

ケ丘1-164

②特 願 昭54-21648

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②出 願 昭54(1979)2月26日

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明細書

1. 発明の名称

アクリロニトリル系重合体成型物

2. 特許請求の範囲

(1) 亜鉛粉末0.1～30質量%とアクリロニトリル系重合体9.9～70質量%とを付型せしめた成型物。

れるようになつてきた。防黴、防菌作用を有する物質としては、銅化合物やアゾール誘導体が知られており、これらの化合物を適宜アクリロニトリル系重合体へ添加する方法が検討されているが、銅化合物を用いる方法は、銅自体の有する色の問題、製品の使用時に於ける銅水銀化合物の生成などの不都合な問題が生じ、また、有機防黴剤には毒性の問題があるなどの点が、その実用化を妨げている。

本発明者等は防黴、防菌効果を有すると共に上述した如き不都合の生じにくいアクリロニトリル系重合物を得ることを目的として検討中のところ、亜鉛粉末がアクリロニトリル系重合体に比較的容易に混合し得ると共に、優れた防黴、防菌効果を示し、かつ、合成繊維の欠点である静電気帯電性を低減しうる効果を成型物に付与しうることを見出し本発明を完成した。

本発明の要旨とするところは、亜鉛粉末0.1～30質量%とアクリロニトリル系重合体9.9～70質量%とよりなるアクリロニトリル系重合体成

3. 発明の詳細な説明

本発明はアクリロニトリル系成型物、とくに亜鉛粉末を充填材として含む新規なアクリロニトリル系成型物に関するものである。

アクリロニトリル系成型物、とくに繊維はサニタリー分野で利用されるマットやカーペット類や毛布などの素材として有用なものであるが、これらの分野に於て用いる成型物は防黴性や防菌性を有しているものであることが強く要望さ

(1)

(2)

まれるようになることが必要である。

本発明を実施するに際して用いるアクリロニトリル系高合体は成形性とくに、複雑形成能を有するものならば、いかなるアクリロニトリル系高合体をも用いることが可能であり、例えはアクリロニトリルを40の重量%以上と他のビニルモノマー、例えは、塩化ビニル、塩化ビニリデン、酢酸ビニル、アクリル酸またはメタクリル酸あるいはこれら酸のアルキルエステル類、アクリルアミドまたはメタクリルアミド或いはこれらアミドの誘導体類、ビニルビリジン、ビニルビロリドン、ビニルスルホン酸、アリルスルホン酸、メタリルスルホン酸などを適宜組合せたものを40の重量%以下なる割合で共高合せしめたものをその具体例として挙げることができる。

本発明を実施するに際して用いる亞鉛粉末は通常その粒径が1μ以下の中であることが望ましく、その使用量は、アクリロニトリル系高合体組成物中に20～30重量%なる割合で含

(3)

紡糸に於て用いるノズルの径の1/10以下になるように均一に分散せしめておくことが必要であり、分散装置として、とくに、ゴーリングミキサー、バイブライシングミキサーを使用することによつて凝集粒子径の小さな膜板を容易に細胞することができる。

亞鉛粒子のアクリロニトリル系高合体への分散方法は、当該成形物中へ均一に分散せしめる方法、海島構造となるような分散する方法、シースコア型構造に分散せしめる方法などを用いることができる。かくの如く、亞鉛粉末を複雑断面に對し、分離された状態で、かつ、複雑軸方向に配向させる際には、亞鉛粉末に対して親和性の良好な高合体を、その担体として用いることもでき、このような高合体としては親水性高合体を用いるのが望ましく、例えは、ポリエステルとポリエチレングリコール、ポリブロビレングリコールなどのポリアルキレングリコールとのブロツクポリエーテルエステルやポリエーテルエステルとアクリロニトリルとのグラフ

(4)

ト高合体、ポリアルキレングリコール(メタ)アクリレートとアクリロニトリルを主成分とする共高合体などを挙げることができる。上記複合状態の糸中の亞鉛粉末含有ポリマー成分の径は0.5～2μ程度であり、かつ成形物の長さ方向、とくに複雑軸方向に細胞状に配向分配された構造となつてゐるが、本発明で得られる複雑の防震効果を有効に發揮せしめるには望ましい。また、上記亞鉛粉末含有層を担持するアクリロニトリル系高合体層は、他の充填材を含まないものであつてもよいが、酢酸亞鉛や酢酸チタン、或いは水酸化アルミなどの充填材を30重量%以下なる割合で含むものとすることによつて、得られた成形物、とくに複雑の外観を良好なものとすることができる。

本発明のアクリロニトリル系複合の半纏維密度は0.5～2.0デニールなる範囲であることが望ましく、半纏維密度が0.5デニール未満なるものは、その機械的強度の点が不足しかつとなり、一方、半纏維密度が2.0デニールを越えて

(5)

大きくなると、得られる繊維の諸性能の低下をきたし易く、とくに繊維の結節強度の低下が著しく、かつ、防菌、防歯効果を有効に発揮せしめうる繊維とするために過剰の亜鉛粉末を過剰に用いる必要が生じるようになるので好ましくない。

また、亜鉛粉末を成型物、とくに繊維中に繊維軸方向に配向せしめる方法を採用する際には亜鉛粉末を担持せしめる複合体中に亜鉛粉末が100重量%以下、好ましくは25~30重量%なる範囲となるようにするのがよい。

本発明のアクリロニトリル系成型物を得るには通常の成型法により作ることができると、繊維を作るに際しては、特定量の亜鉛粉末を含有する紡糸原液を通常の液式法、乾式法、乾-湿式法、半溶融紡糸法などによって紡糸すればよく、紡糸ノズルとしては単一のノズルや、コンジニゲート用ノズル、高島繊維製造用複合ノズルや筒状繊維製造用ノズルを用いることができる。

(7)

この複合体溶液に亜鉛含有スラリーを加え、亜鉛含有量が繊維重量に対し、第1表に示す如くなし、この混合液を加熱溶解後紡糸原液となし、0.2~0.3000ホールのノズルから40~100ノーマルアセトアミド水溶液よりなる30℃の恒温浴中に吐出し、水洗延伸、緻密化処理をした。紡糸状況及び得られた繊維の防歯効果を試験した結果を第1表に示した。

第1表

サンプル No.	亜鉛粉末含有量 (%)	紡糸状況 糸切 れの有無	防歯性試験
1	-	無	抑制効果なし
2	10	✓	✓ 有
3	15	✓	✓
4	20	✓	✓

第1表中抗菌試験は19の繊維を、ペトリ皿中に栄養基質を含む寒天を入れたペトリ皿中に入れ、この栄養基質表面にカンジタ病原菌懸濁液を均質にふりかけ、28℃で48時間培養し

(8)

本発明のアクリロニトリル系成型物は、その中に含まれる亜鉛粉末の効果によって優れた防歯性、防歯性を示し、クリ下用繊維素材、中敷用素材、或いは病院をはじめとするサニタリーフィールドで使用するカーペット素材、エアフィルター、シーツ等、更には、水戸通用素材、布タワシなどの素材として広く利用することができるものである。

以下実施例により本発明を更に詳細に説明する。

## 実施例1

アクリロニトリル20重量%、酢酸ビニル8%からなるアクリロニトリル共重合体を5重量%添加したジメチルアセトアミド溶液70部に亜鉛粉末30部を加え、亜鉛含有スラリーを調整し、ゴーリンミキサーにより100kg/dm<sup>3</sup>で攪拌処理で粉碎しこれをスラリーとした。

一方、上記アクリロニトリル共重合体を-5℃に冷却したジメチルアセトアミドに加えてスラリーを調製し、重合体濃度が25%とした。

(9)

た結果を示したものである。

## 実施例2

縮合度約30のラウロキシポリエチレングリコールメタクリレート30部とメチルメタクリレート20部の共重合体(I)と、ラウロキシポリエチレングリコールメタクリレートとメチルメタクリレートとの共重合比3:2なる共重合成分Aに対し、アクリロニトリルBを当量なる割合でブロック共重合したAB型ブロック共重合体とを重合体(I)85部、AB型ブロック共重合体15部なる割合となるように混じし、このものを重合体濃度10重量%になるようにジメチルアセトアミドに溶解し、これに亜鉛粉末を重合体に対し30重量%になるように混合しゴーリンミキサーにて均一になるように攪拌混合し亜鉛粉末含有スラリーを作つた。

一方、アクリロニトリル2.4重量%、メチルアクリレート8.8重量%、ビニルベンゼンスルホン酸ソーダ0.2重量%なる割合で比粘度0.170の重合体をジメチルアセトアミドに重合体濃度

(10)

スメ重量%になるように溶解し、酸化亜鉛を重合体に対し20%の重量%となるように混合溶解した。

酸化亜鉛含有アクリロニトリル系複合体スラリーを、酸化亜鉛含有重合体スラリーに添加した混合物を紡糸原液とし、孔径0.08mm、孔数200のノズルを用いて温度40°C、ジメチルアセトアミド30%水溶液よりなる凝固浴中に吐出し、水洗、延伸、乾燥機和処理を行い亜鉛粉末含有フィブリルを有し、亜鉛含有率10%のアクリロニトリル系繊維を得た。得られた繊維を実施例1と同様にして、その抗歯性を測定した結果、良好な抗歯性を示した。

また、得られた繊維のフィブリル層とアクリロニトリル系複合体層との接着性が極めて良好であり、スタチツクオネストノーターを用い、印加電圧1万V、印加時間30秒、試料回転数1000rpmにて印加し、荷電量の半減期を求めたところ10秒以内であり良好な静電性を示した。

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JP 55-115440

## 1. Title of the Invention

Acrylonitrile polymer-molded article

## 2. Claims

- (1) A molded article comprising 0.1 to 30% by weight of zinc powder and 99.9 to 70% by weight of acrylonitrile polymer.
- (2) The molded article according to Claim 1, characterized in that the molded article has a monofilament fineness of 0.5 to 20 deniers.

## 3. Detailed Description of the Invention

The present invention relates to an acrylonitrile polymer molded article, particularly to a novel acrylonitrile polymer molded article containing a zinc powder as a filler.

Acrylonitrile polymer molded articles, particularly fibers thereof are useful as a material for mats, carpets, and blankets to be used in the sanitation fields. These molded articles are increasingly desired to have antifungal and antibacterial properties. As substances having antifungal and antibacterial properties, copper compounds and azole derivatives are known. Methods for adding such a compound as appropriate to acrylonitrile polymers have been studied. Methods of using copper compounds, however, have

some disadvantageous problems such as the color of copper per se, and the production of copper hydroxides at the time of use of the products. Further, organic antifungal agents have the problem of toxicity. All of these problems have prevented them from being practical use.

The present inventors found, during a research conducted with the aim of obtaining an acrylonitrile molded article having antifungal and antibacterial effects and causing no such inconveniences as described above, that a zinc powder can be comparatively easily mixed into an acrylonitrile polymer, exhibiting excellent antifungal and antibacterial effects, and is also capable of imparting the effect of reducing static electricity, a disadvantage of synthetic fiber.

The essence of the present invention lies in an acrylonitrile polymer article comprising 0.1 to 30% by weight of zinc powder and 99.9 (Note: should be 99.9 to 70)% by weight of acrylonitrile polymer.

Any acrylonitrile polymer can be used for carrying out the present invention as long as it has a molding property, particularly, a fiber forming ability. Specific examples thereof include polymers obtained by copolymerizing 40% by weight or more of acrylonitrile and 60% by weight or less of a combination of other vinyl

monomers, such as, vinyl chloride, vinylidene chloride, vinyl acetate, acrylic acid, or methacrylic acid or alkyl esters thereof; acrylamide, methacrylamide, or derivatives thereof; vinylpyridine, vinylpyrrolidone, vinylsulfonic acid, allylsulfonic acid, and methallylsulfonic acid.

A zinc powder to be used for carrying out the present invention preferably has a particle size of 1  $\mu$  or less, and the amount to be used needs to be determined such that the acrylonitrile polymer composition has 0.1 to 30% by weight of the zinc powder.

When the content of a zinc powder is less than 0.1% by weight, it is not possible to expect sufficient antifungal and antibacterial effects from the resultant molded article. On the other hand, when the content of a zinc powder exceeds 30% by weight, while it is preferable in terms of antifungal and antibacterial effects, it is not preferable since properties such as mechanical strength of the resultant molded article significantly decrease. It is usually preferable to use it in the range of 1 to 20% by weight.

While a zinc powder can be added to an acrylonitrile polymer by a common mixing method, when producing acrylonitrile fiber, it is important not to lower the spinning property of a spinning dope containing a zinc

powder. A dope having a poor spinning property is unpreferable, since it causes thread breakage at the time of spinning, or other inconveniences such as separation of the zinc powder in the step of spinning bath or thread washing. The dispersion state of a zinc powder in a dope can be easily determined by examining the dope with a microscope. It is necessary to homogenously disperse a zinc powder such that the agglomerate particle size thereof in a spinning dope is one tenth or less of the diameter of a nozzle used for the spinning. A dope having a small agglomerate particle size can be easily prepared using a gaulin mixer or a pipeline mixer as a dispersion device.

As a method of dispersing zinc particles to an acrylonitrile polymer, there can be used a method of homogenously dispersing them into the molded article, a method of dispersing them so as to have an island-in-sea structure, or a method of dispersing them so as to have a sheath-core structure. In this way, when orienting a zinc powder along the direction of fiber axis in a state separated from the fiber cross section, a polymer having a favorable affinity to the zinc powder may be used as a carrier. As such a polymer, it is preferable to use a hydrophilic polymer. Examples thereof include a block polyether ester of polyester and polyalkylene glycol such

as polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol; a graft polymer of polyether ester and acrylonitrile; and a copolymer comprising polyalkylene glycol (meth)acrylate and acrylonitrile as the main components. For the purpose of effectively exhibiting the antifungal effect of the fiber according to the present invention, it is preferred that the particle size of the zinc powder-containing polymer component in threads in the above-mentioned composite state be about 0.5 to 2  $\mu$ , and that the polymer component be configured so as to be oriented and distributed in the longitudinal direction of the molded article, particularly, in the direction of the fiber axis. While the acrylonitrile polymer layer carrying the above-mentioned zinc powder layer may not contain other fillers, the appearance of the resultant article, particularly the fiber, becomes favorable by containing a filler such as zinc oxide, titanium oxide, or aluminum hydroxide in a ratio of 30% by weight or less.

It is preferred that the monofilament fineness of the acrylonitrile fiber according to the present invention be in the range of 0.5 to 20 deniers. When the monofilament fineness is less than 0.5 denier, it is likely that the mechanical strength of the fiber is insufficient. On the other hand, when the monofilament fineness exceeds 20

deniers, various properties of the resultant fiber are likely to be degraded. The knot strength in particular significantly lowers, and in order to make the fiber capable of effectively exhibiting antifungal and antibacterial effects, it is also necessary to overly use an excessive amount of zinc powder, which is not preferable.

Furthermore, when employing the method of orienting the zinc powder in the molded article, in fiber in particular, along the direction of fibers, it is also preferred that the polymer carrying the zinc powder have 100% by weight or less, preferably 0.5 to 30% by weight of zinc powder.

An acrylonitrile molded article of the present invention can be produced by an ordinary molding method. An acrylonitrile fiber of the present invention can be produced by spinning a spinning dope containing a specific amount of zinc powder using a common wet method, dry method, dry-wet method, or semi-fusion method. As a spinning nozzle, a single nozzle, a nozzle for conjugate, a composite nozzle for island-in-sea fiber production, or a nozzle for layered fiber production may be used.

The acrylonitrile molded article of the present invention shows excellent antifungal and antibacterial properties due to the effects of the contained zinc powder,

and can be widely used as a fiber material for socks, a material for insoles, or as a material for carpets, air filters, sheets in the sanitation fields including hospitals, or further as a material for water filtration, and cloth used for scrubbing.

The present invention will be further explained by way of the following examples.

#### Example 1

30 parts of zinc powder was added to 70 parts of dimethylacetamide solution to which 5% by weight of an acrylonitrile copolymer comprising 92% by weight of acrylonitrile and 8% of vinyl acetate had been added, to prepare a zinc containing slurry, which was then ground by a gaulin mixer at 100 kg/cm<sup>3</sup> G6 cycle treatment to obtain a slurry.

Meanwhile, the acrylonitrile copolymer was added to dimethylacetamide cooled at -5°C to prepare a slurry to have 245% of polymer concentration. To the polymer solution was added a zinc-containing slurry, to make the zinc contents with respect to the fiber weight as shown in Table 1, and after heating and dissolving, the resultant mixture solutions were used as spinning dopes after heating and dissolving, which were discharged from a nozzle of 0.12

mm  $\phi$  and 5000 holes to a coagulated liquid at 30°C comprising a 40% of aqueous dimethylacetamide solution, followed by washing, extension and dense treatment. The spinning conditions and the test results of antifungal effect of the resultant fibers are shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Sample No.	Content of zinc powder (%)	Thread breakage at spinning	Antifungal test
1	—	None	No suppression effect
2	10	"	Effective in suppression
3	15	"	"
4	20	"	"

In the antifungal test in Table 1, 1 g of fiber was placed in a petri dish into which an agar containing a nutritional substrate was placed, and over the surface of the nutritional substrate, a suspension of candida fungus was homogeneously scattered, which was then cultured for 48 hours at 28°C. The results are shown in Table 1.

#### Example 2

A copolymer (I) comprising 30 parts of lauroxy polyethyleneglycol methacrylate and 70 parts of methyl

methacrylate and an AB type block copolymer copolymerizing with respect to a copolymer component A comprising lauroxy polyethyleneglycol methacrylate and methyl methacrylate in the ratio of 3:7, acrylonitrile B at an equivalent ratio were mixed so as to have 85 parts of copolymer (I) and 15 parts of AB type block copolymer. The resultant mixture was dissolved in dimethylacetamide so as to have 10% by weight of copolymer concentration, with the resultant solution a zinc powder was mixed such that the powder was 30% by weight with respect to the polymer. The resultant substance was mixed and stirred to make it homogeneous using a gaulin mixer to obtain a zinc powder-containing slurry.

Meanwhile, a polymer comprising 94% by weight of acrylonitrile, 5.8% by weight of methyl acrylate, and 0.2% by weight of vinylbenzene sulfonic acid and having a specific viscosity of 0.170 was dissolved in dimethylacetamide so as to have a copolymer concentration of 24% by weight, and zinc oxide was mixed and dissolved such that it becomes 20% by weight with respect to the polymer.

A mixture in which a zinc oxide-containing acrylonitrile polymer slurry was added to a zinc oxide-containing polymer slurry was used as a spinning dope, and

the dope was discharged using a nozzle with a bore diameter of 0.08 mm  $\phi$  and 200 holes into a solid bath comprising a 30% aqueous dimethylacetamide solution, followed by washing, extention and dry softening treatment to obtain acrylonitrile fiber with a zinc content of 10% containing a zinc powder-containing fibril. The antifungal property of the resultant fiber was measured by subjecting it to the same procedure as Example 1. As a result, the fiber showed a favorable antifungal property.

The adhesion between the fibril layer and the acrylonitrile polymer layer of the resultant fiber was extremely favorable. A voltage was applied using a static honest meter to the fiber, with an applied voltage of 10000 v, time for applying the voltage of 30 seconds, and the sample revolution rate of 1000 rpm to find the half-life period of the electrostatic charge. The half-life period was within 10 seconds, exhibiting an excellent electrostatic property.

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